



St. Mary's Catholic Church



27th SUNDAY *in ordinary time*

"From the beginning of creation, God made them
male and female." - Mk 10:6

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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October 3, 2021

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Fr. Felix Nayak- Pastor

Mass Schedule and Intentions

10/4: Malta - 8:30 A.M.: Repose of Betty Opland ^{r/b} Lana Fortin

10/5: Malta - 5:30 PM: Bruce's children ^{r/b} Darlene & Bruce Cummings

10/6: Malta - 8:30 AM: Repose of Linda Lundstrom ^{r/b} Julie & Gary Howell

10/7: Malta - Hi-Line Retirement Center 10:00 AM: Bill Phillips ^{r/b} Cleo Phillips

10/8: Malta - 8:30 AM: Lang Family ^{r/b} Darlene and Bruce Cummings

10/9: Malta - 4:00 PM: Eric Riggs ^{r/b} Julie and Gary Howell

10/10: Malta - 10:30 AM: For all Parishioners;

Dodson—12:30 PM: Darlene's children living and deceased ^{r/b} Darlene & Bruce Cummings

Saco - 8:30 AM: Special Intentions ^{r/b} Lana Fortin

Confession Schedule

Fr. Felix will be in the Confessional at St. Mary's Church **Friday's 9:00-10:00, Saturday from 11:00 A.M.—Noon;** and by appointment.

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday from 9 to 10 AM after Daily Mass.



Contact Fr. Felix for Home Visits, Distribution of the Sacraments, Home Blessings and Counseling of any type.



Knights of Columbus
Council 2124

Parish Council of Catholic
Women

Meets **First Tuesday** of the month

Meets **Second Sunday** of the month

Daily Scripture Readings

10/3: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Respect Life Sunday; Genesis 2:18-24; Psalms 128:1-6; Hebrews 2:9-11; Mark 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

10/4: St. Francis of Assisi; John 1:1—2:2, 11; John 2-5, 8; Luke 10:25-37

10/5: Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest; John 3:1-10; Psalms 130:1-4, 7-8; Luke 10:38-42

10/6: St. Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin; John 4:1-11; Psalms 86:3-6, 9-10; Luke 11:1-4

10/7: Our Lady of the Rosary; Malachi 3:13-20; Psalms 1:1-4 and 6; Psalms 40:5; Luke 11:5-13

10/8: Friday in the 27th week of Ordinary Time; Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Psalms 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9; Luke 11:15-26

10/9: St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; St. John Leonardi, Priest; Joel 4:12-21; Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Luke 11:27-28

10/10: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Wisdom 7:7-11; Psalms 90:12-17; Hebrews 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30 or 10:17-2

Saturday Evening - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday—Dodson—12:30 a.m.

Malta - 10:30 a.m.

Saco—8:30 a.m.



New to the Parish?

Welcome! We're glad you will be joining us. If you would like to register with the parish, please fill out this form and drop it in the collection basket. You may bring it by the parish office or send it to us.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

You may also use this form for a change of address. Thanks!

Sacraments

Confessions: See page 2 of this week's bulletin for schedule or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Please contact Fr. Felix as soon as possible for anointing.

Baptism: Normally celebrated at weekend Masses. Parental sessions are required.

Marriages: Six month couple preparation period required. Please meet with Fr. Felix before scheduling marriage date.

Please Pray For

Eric Riggs, Bubba Kielb, Kari Hould, Lewellyn McNamara, Gary Lundman, Greg & Katie Skiff, Lana Fortin, Eric Engebretson, Linda Brown, and those from our area serving in the military.

For the repose of the souls of Alice McAdams, Linda Lundstrom, Marty Campbell, Alice Hanson, Wink Cole, Barb Darrah, the Poor Souls in Purgatory, and for comfort and peace for their families.

Anyone who needs to have prayers said for someone can call Jean Niebur at 654-2822 and Dianne Salsbery 654-4675. Names will be listed in the bulletin for one month unless specified.

Everyday Stewardship

Therein lies the...rib

“If I were God...” is a dangerous way to start a sentence, but how many of us do this? Probably more regularly than we would like to admit. Even if we don’t verbalize the sentiment, we likely think it from time to time. Most of us finish that statement with some genius, original idea for eradicating difficulty and pain from the world. If I were God, I wouldn’t let anyone go hungry. If I were God, all wealth would be equally distributed. If I were God, war wouldn’t exist.

I imagine that, when we think thoughts like these, God shakes His head and wonders why we don’t look a little harder at the whole of His creation — because I can promise you, it’s never lacking.

When Adam had a need for a companion, God used what was

available: Adam’s rib. Everything that He had put into place was already perfect, already complete. Woman was a new creation, but not a new species. Adam searched through all of creation to find the perfect mate, but God had tucked the answer inside of His creation all along.

I’m guilty of it as much as anyone else — looking to Heaven with a chip on my shoulder. “Why haven’t you sent me what I need? I’ve been asking over and over again.” But have I even thought to look inside of myself?

Where is the rib you are missing today? What are the opportunities God has set before you? What are the needs that He is ready to fulfill, if only you would stop wasting time lamenting all the solutions that don’t fit the bill?

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

“We learn of God’s love through the Scriptures, the testimony of God himself, where we read that ‘whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me’ (Mt 25:40). The scriptures therefore instruct all, including families, to practice charity because Christ is present in every person, especially the poor and needy.”
Pope Francis

Pope Francis’ Intention

Missionary Disciples

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel.

Fr. Felix

XXVII Sunday (B): Gn 2:18-24; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16 (2-12)

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ. Today's Scripture readings challenge the spouses to practice the fidelity of their ever-faithful God, honoring their holy covenant commitment before Him. Today's first reading, explains God's original plan concerning sex and marriage. It teaches us that God made man and woman for each other. Hence, in marriage they are no longer two but one, united by an unbreakable bond. The reading also describes the institution of marriage and shows that monogamy was God's intention from the very beginning. Today's second reading, reminds us that Jesus became one of us, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh. As one of us, Jesus "tasted death for everyone." Jesus was not only the Sacrifice, but also the High Priest. We are now bonded with Jesus as brothers and sisters and to God as His adopted children. Thus, Christ became Savior to all people – the good and the bad – everyone, and we all became Jesus' brothers and sisters. Jesus' prohibition of divorce can be a source of suffering for those who face difficult married lives. St. Paul suggests that we have to accept that pain as Jesus did, as the suffering we should endure on the way to glory.

The ancient Jewish believed marriage as a sanctification or consecration. The husband's absolute consecration to his wife and of the wife to her husband. But their practice was far from that ideal, and divorce was common. The wife was

considered to be a husband's property with no legal rights. So, Moses commanded the men at least to give the woman a certificate of divorce which stated: "She is not my wife, and I am not her husband." That way she would at least be free to remarry. So, Moses was trying in a small way to give women some protection. There were two interpretations prevalent in Jewish theological schools concerning the Mosaic Law on divorce by which Moses allowed divorce when the husband found "some indecency" in his wife. A "bill of divorcement" told society that the woman was not a harlot, but that she was free to remarry. The Shammai School interpreted "indecency" as adultery, or some grounds of sexual impropriety, while the Hillel School interpreted it as anything which the husband did not like in his wife's word, behavior, actions, her appearance. There are grounds for divorce if the wife burned his breakfast, put more salt on his food, showed disrespect to him and his parents, spoke to a man on the street, or even let her hair down in public. A man could divorce a woman on a whim, but a woman could not divorce a man for any cause.

In today's Gospel, Jesus declare unequivocally that the bond of marriage comes from God, not man, and that it is permanent and indissoluble: "What God has joined, man must not separate." A Catholic marriage is a sacred contract between a man and woman and at the same time is rooted in a special Covenant with

the Lord. That is why Jesus states that a valid marriage is permanent. Hence, the Church has always firmly taught that a Sacramental marriage between Catholics in which there has been true matrimonial consent and consummation, is absolutely indissoluble, except by the death of one of the spouses. The Catechism of the Catholic Church summarizes the Church's teaching:

“Divorce is a grave offense against the natural law. It claims to break the contract, to which the spouses freely consent-

ed, to live with each other till death..... Divorce is immoral also because it introduces disorder into the family and into society. This disorder brings grave harm to the deserted spouse, to children traumatized by the separation of their parents and often torn between them, and because of its contagious effect which makes it truly a plague on society” (CCC #2384, 2385). May God bless and protect the families, Amen.

- Join the Public Square Rosary on October 16th at noon. It will be at the Veterans Memorial Park.
- The 2022 Raffle for the Ministries of the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings has started. At this time tickets are available from Tom Golik and Brenda Rummel. Tickets are \$20.00. \$5.00 of each ticket sold comes back to the parish. Tickets purchased before November 1st will be entered in the a \$500.00 drawing.
- The new ministry schedule is in the back of the church

27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Gospel Meditation

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Archbishop Fulton Sheen said, “It takes three to make love, not two: you, your spouse, and God.” Apart from the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, nothing speaks better of God’s incarnate love than marriage. God designed it this way. We place great value on love and rightly so. What we fail to realize, however, is that love, its very presence and place in our lives, is not simply part of the human package deal. Love comes from God. It is one of God’s greatest gifts to human beings. When we begin to realize that our very ability to love is sacred, it changes up how we see the essence of life, and purpose and sanctity of marriage.

God is love. It stands to reason then that if we follow the path of unconditional, self-emptying love we will then stumble upon God. It is precisely this intimate wedding of God with love that gives such eloquence and honor to the love between husband and wife. As a living sign of Christ’s love for the Church and for humanity, husbands and wives speak volumes of God’s unconditional incarnate love for all of his children! The Divine power that brings unity and life to marriage is so strong that once joined, it really cannot be separated.

Admittedly, marriage covenants can be extremely difficult to negotiate and, at times, very painful to experience. God’s perfect divinity always meets our broken and imperfect humanity. God is okay with this setup as he created it this way. Our loving is never as unconditional as God’s and often tainted by our own imperfections, needs, memories, hurts, sinfulness, and weakness. All of this baggage negatively impacts even the most well-intentioned marriages, causing them to be hurtful and empty. We are love works in progress. God can succeed in perfecting our love only if we keep our eyes fixed on him as the source of that love. That’s why marriage is always about three and not just two.

The Divine intimacy at the heart of marriage is what can make them celebrations of great union and happiness. Couples who are still madly in love with each other after many years, still looking at each other with that timeless twinkle in their eyes, best tell the story of God’s oneness with humanity. Honor, celebrate, and support those who have accepted a vocation to marriage. Living in a world that easily pulls relationships apart, may they find hope and inspiration from their faith companions who are on the same journey!

“ Until you can hear Jesus in the silence of your own heart, you will not be able to hear him saying ‘I thirst’ in the hearts of the poor...Not only that he loves you, even more—he longs for you. He misses you when you don’t come close. He thirsts for you, even when you don’t feel worthy. St. Teresa of Calcutta

Mass Intentions

As Catholics, we have a long tradition of having Masses celebrated for those we offer up in prayer. The Mass is the ultimate form of prayer, and each Mass is celebrated for an intention. We ask \$10.00 per mass intention.

Please consider having Masses celebrated for family and friends on special occasions

and anniversaries, as well as those who are in need of prayers. Masses are also encouraged in memory of those loved ones who have died, especially on the anniversaries of their deaths. Please contact Fr. Felix for more information.



Sacrificial Giving for 9-19

9-19

Direct Deposit

Malta:	\$976.00	\$25.00
Dodson:	\$210.00	\$0.00
Saco:	\$1,070.00	\$50.00

Finance Council

Charlie Mears 654-7006, cmears@itstriangle.com

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Scott King 654-7302, sbking1959@gmail.com

Lana Fortin 654-4811, lanafortin03@gmail.com

Please send bulletin announcements to office@SaintMarysMalta.org by Thursday evening. Thanks!

Word of Life from the USCCB

“St. Joseph’s ‘yes’ to the Lord meant his own. Joseph’s devotion helps reveal that regardless of the hardship and to us our own call to show special care personal sacrifice to himself, he consistently the lives of those whom God has chose to put the needs of Mary and entrusted to us.”
Jesus before

Weekly Reflection from Priests for Life

Marriage and the Gift of Life

“A certain sharing by man in God's lordship is also evident in the specific responsibility which he is given for human life as such. It is a responsibility which reaches its highest point in the giving of life through procreation by man and woman in marriage. As the

Second Vatican Council teaches: "God himself who said, 'It is not good for man to be alone' (Gen 2:18) and 'who made man from the beginning male and female' (Mt 19:4), wished to share with man a certain special participation in his own creative work. Thus he blessed male and female saying: 'Increase and multiply' (Gen 1:28)"

Parish Council

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Saint Francis of Assisi

(c. 1181–1226)

Saint Francis of Assisi abandoned a life of luxury for a life devoted to Christianity after reportedly hearing the voice of God, who commanded him to rebuild the Christian church and live in poverty. He is the patron saint for ecologists.

Who Was Saint Francis of Assisi?

Born in Italy circa 1181, Saint Francis of Assisi was renowned for drinking and partying in his youth. After fighting in a battle between Assisi and Perugia, Francis was captured and imprisoned for ransom. He spent nearly a year in prison — awaiting his father's payment — and, according to legend, began receiving visions from God. After his release from prison, Francis heard the voice of Christ, who told him to repair the Christian Church and live a life of poverty. Consequently, he abandoned his life of luxury and became a devotee of the faith, his reputation spreading all over the Christian world.

Later in life, Francis reportedly received a vision that left him with the stigmata of Christ — marks resembling the wounds Jesus Christ suffered when he was crucified — making Francis the first person to receive such holy wounds. He was canonized as a saint on July 16, 1228. During his life he also developed a deep love of nature and animals and is known as the patron saint of the environment and animals; his life and words have had a lasting resonance with millions of followers across the globe. Each October, many animals the world over are blessed on his feast day.

BEGINNING



“But from the beginning of
creation, God made them
male and female.”

MARK 10:6